UNION COUNTY REPORT
OF
ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN
PLANTS, ANIMALS, AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES
OF
KENTUCKY

KENTUCKY STATE NATURE
PRESERVES COMMISSION
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Data Current as of February 2006

Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission
Key for County List Report

Within a county, elements are arranged first by taxonomic complexity (plants first, natural communities last), and second by scientific name. A key to status, ranks, and count data fields follows.

STATUS

KSNPC: Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission status:

N or blank = none E = endangered T = threatened S = special concern H = historic X = extirpated

USESA: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service status:

blank = none C = candidate LT = listed as threatened LE = listed as endangered

SOMC = Species of Management Concern

RANKS

GRANK: Estimate of element abundance on a global scale:

G1 = Critically imperiled
G2 = Imperiled
G3 = Vulnerable
G4 = Apparently secure
G5 = Secure
GH = Historic, possibly extinct
GX = Presumed extinct
GU = Unrankable
G#? = Inexact rank (e.g. G2?)
G#Q = Questionable taxonomy
G#T# = Infraspecific taxa (Subspecies and variety abundances are coded with a 'T' suffix; the 'G' portion of the rank then refers to the entire species)
GNR = Unranked
GNA = Not applicable

SRANK: Estimate of element abundance in Kentucky:

S1 = Critically imperiled
S2 = Imperiled
S3 = Vulnerable
S4 = Apparently secure
S5 = Secure
SH = Historic, possibly extirpated
SX = Presumed extirpated
SU = Unrankable
S#? = Inexact rank (e.g. G2?)
S#Q = Questionable taxonomy
S#T# = Infraspecific taxa
SNR = Unranked
SNA = Not applicable

Migratory species may have separate ranks for different population segments (e.g. S1B, S2N, S4M):
S#B = Rank of breeding population
S#N = Rank of non-breeding population
S#M = Rank of transient population

COUNT DATA FIELDS

OF OCCURRENCES: Number of occurrences of a particular element from a county. Column headings are as follows:

E - currently reported from the county
H - reported from the county but not seen for at least 20 years
F - reported from county & cannot be relocated but for which further inventory is needed
X - known to be extirpated from the county
U - reported from a county but cannot be mapped to a quadrangle or exact location.

The data from which the county report is generated is continually updated. The date on which the report was created is in the report footer. Contact KSNPC for a current copy of the report.

Please note that the quantity and quality of data collected by the Kentucky Natural Heritage Program are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Kentucky have never been thoroughly surveyed, and new species of plants and animals are still being discovered. For these reasons, the Kentucky Natural Heritage Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence, absence, or condition of biological elements in any part of Kentucky. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known to the Kentucky Natural Heritage Program at the time of the request regarding the biological elements or locations in question. They should never be regarded as final statements on the elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments.

KSNPC appreciates the submission of any endangered species data for Kentucky from field observations. For information on data reporting or other data services provided by KSNPC, please contact the Data Manager at:

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County	Taxonomic Group	Scientific name	Common name	Statuses	Ranks	# of Occurrences				
	Habitat					**E**	**H**	**F**	**X**	**U**
Union	Vascular Plants	*Armoracia lacustris*	Lakecress	T /	G4? / S1S2	1	0	0	0	0
	Quiet shores or muddy waters of sloughs, cypress swamps, seasonal sloughs, or slow water.									
Union	Vascular Plants	*Silene ovata*	Ovate Catchfly	E / SOMC	G3 / S1	0	1	0	0	0
	Dry - mesic forest, mountain summits. In IL found in calcareous sandstone woods, exposures on the side of slopes below a cap of sandstone.									
Union	Gastropods	*Webbhelix multilineata*	Striped Whitelip	T /	G5 / S1S2	1	0	0	0	0
	LOW, WET PLACES, IN MARSHES, FLOODPLAINS, MEADOWS, AND MARGINS OF LAKES AND PONDS, UNDER LITTER AND DRIFT (HUBRICHT 1985).									
Union	Freshwater Mussels	*Plethobasus cyphyus*	Sheepnose	E / C	G3 / S1	0	1	0	0	0
	Usually found in large rivers in current on mud, sand, or gravel bottoms at depth of 1-2 meters or more (Baker 1928, Parmalee 1967, Gordon and Layzer 1989).									
Union	Freshwater Mussels	*Potamilus capax*	Fat Pocketbook	E / LE	G1 / S1	4	0	1	0	0
	Occurs in medium to large-sized rivers often around island and back channels, and sometimes in ditches, in mud (ooze); mixed sand, mud, and clay; or fine silt and mud in flowing water at depths of a few inches up to eight feet (Parmalee 1967, Ahlstedt and Jenkinson 1987, Cummings and Mayer 1993, Cummings et al. 1990).									
Union	Freshwater Mussels	*Toxolasma texasiensis*	Texas Lilliput	E /	G4 / S1	0	0	1	0	0
	LOW GRADIENT STREAMS OR SLOUGHS WITH SOFT BOTTOMS (I.E., MUD OR SMALL SAND OR GRAVEL) AND ALSO RESERVOIRS (PARMALEE 1967, CUMMINGS AND MAYER 1992).									
Union	Insects	*Gomphus hybridus*	Cocoa Clubtail	E /	G4 / S1	1	0	0	0	0
	Medium to large rivers with silt/sand bottoms.									
Union	Fishes	*Acipenser fulvescens*	Lake Sturgeon	E / SOMC	G3G4 / S1	1	0	0	0	0
	LAKES AND LARGE RIVERS WITH A FIRM SAND/GRAVEL BOTTOM (BURR AND WARREN 1986, ETNIER AND STARNES 1993).									
Union	Amphibians	*Hyla avivoca*	Bird-voiced Treefrog	S /	G5 / S3	1	0	0	0	0
	IN KENTUCKY, THE SPECIES APPEARS TO BE RESTRICTED TO FLOODPLAIN WETLANDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE DOMINATED BY BALD CYPRESS, WATER TUPELO, GREEN ASH, AND BUTTONBUSH.									
Union	Reptiles	*Apalone mutica mutica*	Midland Smooth Softshell	S /	G5T5 / S3	2	0	0	0	0
	Open water habitats; Most numerous in open river situations with gravel or sand substrates, but also present in slower rivers and impoundments.									
Union	Reptiles	*Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta*	Copperbelly Water Snake	S / SOMC	G5T2T3 / S3	5	0	0	0	0
	Floodplain sloughs, swamps, hardwood forest and adjacent uplands. Seems to do well in KDFWR moist soils management units on Sloughs WMA, Henderson Co. Seems to avoid wetlands impacted by acid mine drainage (Fide H. Bryan).									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Aimophila aestivalis*	Bachman's Sparrow	E / SOMC	G3 / S1B	1	0	0	0	0
	OPEN PINE WOODS WITH SCATTERED BUSHES OR UNDERSTORY, BRUSHY OR OVERGROWN HILLSIDES, OVERGROWN FIELDS WITH THICKETS AND BRAMBLES, GRASSY ORCHARDS.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Anas discors*	Blue-winged Teal	T /	G5 / S1S2B	1	0	0	0	0
	MARSHES, PONDS, SLOUGHS, LAKES AND SLUGGISH STREAMS. IN MIGRATION AND WHEN NOT BREEDING, IN BOTH FRESHWATER AND BRACKISH SITUATIONS (B83 COM01NA).									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Ardea alba*	Great Egret	E /	G5 / S1B	0	0	1	0	0
	MARSHES, SWAMPY WOODS, TIDAL ESTUARIES, LAGOONS, MANGROVES, ALONG STREAM, LAKES, AND PONDS.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Certhia americana*	Brown Creeper	E /	G5 / S1S2B,S4 S5N	1	0	0	0	0
	FOREST, WOODLAND, SWAMPS; ALSO SCRUB AND PARKS IN WINTER AND MIGRATION.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Corvus ossifragus*	Fish Crow	S /	G5 / S3B	2	0	0	0	0
	BEACHES, BAYS, LAGOONS, INLETS, SWAMPS, NEAR MARSHES, AND, LESS FREQUENTLY, DECIDUOUS OR CONIFEROUS WOODLAND, IN INLAND SITUATIONS PRIMARILY IN BALDCYPRESS SWAMPS AND ALONG MAJOR WATERCOURSES. ALSO GARBAGE DUMPS.									

County	Taxonomic Group	Scientific name	Common name	Statuses	Ranks	# of Occurrences				
	Habitat					**E**	**H**	**F**	**X**	**U**
Union	Breeding Birds	*Fulica americana*	American Coot	E /	G5 / S1B	1	0	0	0	0
	FRESHWATER LAKES, PONDS, MARSHES, AND LARGER RIVERS, WINTERING ALSO ON BRACKISH ESTUARIES AND BAYS. ALSO ON LAND BORDERING THESE HABITATS.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Gallinula chloropus*	Common Moorhen	T /	G5 / S1S2B	1	0	0	0	0
	Freshwater marshes, canals, quiet rivers, lakes, ponds, mangroves, primarily in areas of emergent vegetation and grassy borders; taro patches in HI.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Ictinia mississippiensis*	Mississippi Kite	S /	G5 / S2B	1	0	0	0	0
	TALL FOREST, OPEN WOODLAND, PRAIRIE, SEMIARID RANGELAND, SHELTERBELTS, WOODED AREAS BORDERING LAKES AND STREAMS IN MORE OPEN REGIONS, SCRUBBY OAKS AND MESQUITE.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Ixobrychus exilis*	Least Bittern	T /	G5 / S1S2B	1	0	0	0	0
	TALL VEGETATION IN MARSHES, PRIMARILY FRESHWATER, LESS COMMONLY IN COASTAL BRACKISH MARSHES AND MANGROVE SWAMPS. PREFERENCE FOR MARSHES WITH SCATTERED BUSHES OR OTHER WOODY GROWTH. INFREQUENTLY IN MARSHES <5 HA IN IA (A86BRO02NA).									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Nyctanassa violacea*	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	T /	G5 / S2B	1	0	0	0	0
	MARSHES, SWAMPS, LAKES, LAGOONS, AND MANGROVES.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Riparia riparia*	Bank Swallow	S /	G5 / S3B	3	0	0	0	0
	OPEN AND PARTLY OPEN SITUATIONS, FREQUENTLY NEAR FLOWING WATER (B83COM01NA).									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Sterna antillarum athalassos*	Interior Least Tern	E / LE	G4T2Q / S2B	2	0	0	1	0
	BARE OR NEARLY BARE ALLUVIAL ISLANDS OR SAND BARS.									
Union	Breeding Birds	*Vireo bellii*	Bell's Vireo	S / SOMC	G5 / S2S3B	2	0	0	0	0
	DENSE BRUSH, MESQUITE, STREAMSIDE THICKETS, AND SCRUB OAK, IN ARID REGIONS BUT OFTEN NEAR WATER (B83COM01NA); MOIST WOODLAND, BOTTONLANDS, WOODLAND EDGE, SCATTERED COVER AND HEDGEROWS IN CULTIVATED AREAS. OPEN WOODLAND, BRUSH IN WINT.									
Union	Mammals	*Myotis sodalis*	Indiana Bat	E / LE	G2 / S1S2	1	0	0	0	0
	Indiana bats use primarily caves for hibernacula, although they are occasionally found in old mine portals.									
Union	Mammals	*Nycticeius humeralis*	Evening Bat	S /	G5 / S3	1	0	0	0	0
	THE EVENING BAT IS A COLONIAL SPECIES THAT ROOSTS IN TREES AND HOUSES. IT APPARENTLY MIGRATES SOUTHWARD IN WINTER.									
Union	Mammals	*Sorex cinereus*	Cinereus Shrew	S /	G5 / S3	0	1	0	0	0
	Moist forests and meadows. Rich woods.									
Union	Communities	*Bottomland hardwood forest*		/	GNR / S2	1	0	0	0	0